

NOTES ON CUBAN TRIATOMINAE
(Hemiptera, Reduviidae)

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During a recent visit to Cuba types and other specimens of Triatominae were examined. My work was greatly facilitated by the generous assistance of Dr. S. C. Bruner of the Estación Experimental Agronomica at Santiago de las Vegas and Dr. J. M. Osorio of the University of Havana. Thanks are also due to the directors of the Instituto de Segunda Ensenanza de la Habana for admitting me to the "Museo Gundlach."

BOLBODERA SCABROSA Valdés

The type, No. 385, in the Gundlach collection, is well preserved but the red color has faded to pale yellow and the hemelytra are broken apically.

NESOTRIATOMA FLAVIDA (NEIVA)

A specimen, No. 88, is preserved in the sealed, glass covered box in the Gundlach collection. It is labeled *Rhodnius prolixus* Stål (presumably a Uhler determination) and is undoubtedly the source of subsequent records of *Rhodnius prolixus* for Cuba. The specimen is relatively large (approaching the type of *bruneri* Usinger in this respect) with a short, equilateral pygidium and with the first antennal segment reaching almost to apex of clypeus.

At the suggestion of S. C. Bruner all available specimens of *Nesotriatoma* Usinger were studied to determine limits of variation. Although no specimens were available from Western Cuba, variations between *bruneri* and *flavida* were found in Dr. Bruner's series of 9 specimens from Central and Eastern Cuba. The size of eyes and degree of development of tibial fossae proved to be valueless as diagnostic characters within this plastic group. Two female specimens from the western part of Camaguey Province (Majagua and Is. Turiguaro) had relatively short first antennal segments and relatively long pygidia in contrast to seven specimens from the vicinity of the city of Camaguey and from Oriente Province.

Ten specimens from the vicinity of Camaguey, all in the University collection of Dr. Osorio, ranged in size from large females like the type of *bruneri* to a male 22 mm. long which resembles closely the type of *flavida*. Under the circumstances *Nesotriatoma bruneri* Usinger must be considered as a straight synonym of *Nesotriatoma flavida* (Neiva).

It is interesting to speculate on the probable native hosts of these bugs on an island with such a depauperate mammalian fauna as Cuba. The commonest group of native animals is the rodent genus *Capromys* and Dr. Bruner (*in litt.*) states: "It appears to be more than a probability that the common short-tailed hutia or *jutia conga*, *Capromys pilorides* (Pallas), is the native host of *Nesotriatoma flavida*. It seems likely that the smaller, long-tailed, arboreal *jutia andaroz* of eastern Cuba, *Capromys melanurus* Poey, may be a host of the *Bolbodera*."

The genus *Capromys* is restricted to Cuba, the Isle of Pines and adjacent keys whereas the closely related *Geocapromys* occurs in the Bahamas, Jamaica, and Little Swan Island. The Venezuelan *Procapromys* extends the range of this group to the South American mainland. The two genera of bugs under discussion have been reported only from Cuba. *Bolbodera*, however, is related to *Belminus*, a genus which has been recorded from sloths in Costa Rica. The endemic sloths of Cuba are now extinct but *Bolbodera* may be a relic, surviving on other animals since the death of its last original host.

A NEW TEXAN LITHOBIUS (Chilopoda)

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The new species of *Lithobius* here described is represented by a single adult female in a small collection of myriopods taken in a nest of *Neotoma micropus* by Maj. D. E. Hardy. The genus *Lithobius*, as now restricted, is not a large one in its American representation, so that the addition of another species is a matter of interest. It may be placed with reference to the other known North American species by means of the following key: